(B) a protein which is encoded by a DNA which hybridizes with the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 9 under stringent conditions of 60°C, 1x SSC and 0.1% SDS, and which has an activity of excreting the L-amino acid,

is increased relative to a wild strain by increasing a copy number of a DNA coding for said protein in a cell or by replacing an expression regulatory sequence for expression of a DNA coding for said protein.

46. (New) The bacterium according to claim 45, wherein a copy number of a DNA coding for said protein in a cell is increased.

47. (New) The bacterium according to claim 46, wherein said DNA is carried on a multicopy vector in the cell.

48. (New) The bacterium according to claim 46, wherein said DNA is carried on a transposon in the cell.

49. (New) The bacterium of Claim 45, wherein the expression amount of (A) is increased.

50. (New) The bacterium of Claim 45, wherein the expression amount of (B) is increased.

51. (New) The bacterium of Claim 45, wherein the L-amino acid is L-proline.

52. (New) The bacterium of Claim 45, wherein the L-amino acid is L-lysine.

53. (New) The bacterium of Claim 45, wherein the L-amino acid is L-glutamic acid.

54. (New) A method for producing an L-amino acid, comprising:

cultivating the bacterium as defined in claim 45 in a culture medium, to produce and accumulate the L-amino acid in the medium, and

recovering the L-amino acid from the medium.

55. (New) The method of Claim 54, wherein a copy number of a DNA coding for said protein in a cell is increased.

56. (New) The method of Claim 55, wherein said DNA is carried on a multicopy vector in the cell.

57. (New) The method of Claim 55, wherein said DNA is carried on a transposon in the cell.

58. (New) The method of Claim 54, wherein the expression amount of (A) is increased.

59. (New) The bacterium of Claim 54, wherein the expression amount of (B) is increased.

60. (New) The method of Claim 54, wherein the L-amino acid is L-lysine.

61. (New) The method of Claim 54, wherein the L-amino acid is L-glutamic acid.

62. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the L-amino acid is L-proline.--

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Newly-added Claims 45-62 are supported by the specification at pages 2-52 and by original Claims 1-26. In particular the activity of excreting the L-amino acid is described at page 2, lines 22-23. A detailed description for increasing the expression amount is provided at page 9, line 26 to page 10, line 2 and page 11, lines 17-22 of the specification. No new matter is believed to have been added to this application by these amendments.